

Shaping Tomorrow's Built Environment Today

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Ginger Scoggins 2023-2024 ASHRAE President

Engineered Designs, Inc. 1151 SE Cary Pkwy., Ste. 200 Cary, NC 27518 Phone: (919) 851-8481 Email: gscoggins@engineereddesigns.com

April 11, 2024

The Honorable Meg Froelich Chair Committee on Transportation, Housing and Local Government Colorado House 200 E Colfax Avenue Denver, CO 80203

Sent via email to: meg.froelich.house@coleg.gov

RE: House Bill 24-1366

Dear Chair Froelich:

ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is a global society advancing human well-being through sustainable technology for the built environment. The Society and its more than 53,000 members, including over 1,100 in Colorado, focus on building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, refrigeration and sustainability. Through research, standards writing, publishing, certification and continuing education, ASHRAE shapes tomorrow's built environment today.

We are writing to you regarding House Bill 24-1366, "*Concerning Sustainable Local Government Community Planning*.". This bill would require each county or regional master plan to include a climate action element. Section 2. 8. (I) of the legislation would further require that the climate action element include "reducing emissions from the built environment through methods including adopting energy efficient building codes and encouraging building electrification." ASHRAE supports this provision and suggests the use of ASHRAE standards and resources to achieve these goals for energy efficient building codes and beneficial building electrification.

Energy efficiency can be improved significantly through the adoption and effective implementation of the most recent version of **ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2022**, <u>Energy</u> <u>Efficiency in Sites and Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings</u>, which has provided the minimum requirements for the energy-efficient design in the United States for over 40 years. The latest edition of Standard 90.1, the 2022 edition, has made significant updates and expands on previous editions. This 2022 edition begins the Standard's move towards becoming a Net Zero Carbon Emission Code by 2031. Additionally, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has recently issued a determination that ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2022 will achieve greater energy efficiency in

commercial buildings subject to the code, as compared to the previous 2019 edition of the standard. The determination estimates savings for commercial buildings of approximately 9.8% in site energy and 9.4% in source energy, along with an estimated 8.9% reduction in energy costs and 9.3% savings in carbon emissions.¹

ASHRAE stands at the forefront in supplying standards, guidance, and education for the design, manufacturing, installation, and operation of building systems. These resources can also provide governments with a technical foundation for beneficial building electrification policies. ASHRAE's relevant standards and guidance include:

- Standard 100, Energy and Emissions Building Performance Standard for Existing Buildings
- Standard 105, Standard Methods for Determining, Expressing and Comparing Building Energy Performance and Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Standard 211, Standard for Commercial Building Energy Audits
- Standard 228, Standard Method of Evaluating Zero Net Energy and Zero Net Carbon Building Performance
- Proposed Standard 240P, Evaluating Greenhouse Gas (GHG) and Carbon Emissions in Building Design, Construction and Operation
- Multiple technical resource guides developed by ASHRAE's Task Force for Building Decarbonization at <u>https://www.ashrae.org/about/ashrae-task-force-for-building-decarbonization</u>.

Again, we support the provision in this bill that promotes energy efficient building codes and beneficial building electrification, and recommend ASHRAE standards and guidance to help achieve these goals. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff email <u>GovAffairs@ashrae.org</u>. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter and for working to ensure the health and well-being of building occupants.

Sincerely,

Ginger Scoggins ASHRAE President

¹ Determination Regarding Energy Efficiency Improvements in ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2022, U.S. Department of Energy, February 2024: <u>https://www.energycodes.gov/sites/default/files/2024-02/Standard_90-1-2022</u> Determination FR Notice.pdf